

AT MIDNIGHT.

The palls meonlight through the casement drift; The pallid meonlight through the easement drifts:
A sen of silver oreaking spray that falls.
Shimmering down the darkly shadowed walls.
And caken foor. Outside, the night wind lifts.
A rustling branch against the pane; it shifts.
The shadow to and fro and faintly calls.
In soft sea tones, learned where the slow foam crawls.

In serpent wreathed colls through craggy rifts. O croosing west wind, dost thou bear to me No greeting from one loved and far away? Is there no message in thy whispering To me awake, waiting to hear from thee

One tender prayer that her dear lips might say shadowed her with drowsy wing George L. Moore in Chambers' Journal.

A FAMILY AFFAIR.

Just on the divide of a Tennessee mountain the hind wheels of the buckboard dropped into a rut, the axle broke with a smash, and after spending ten minutes in solemn thought the driver

"Well, I'll have to get the consarned thing down to Tompkinsville for repairs, and you'd better stay all night at you

"Perhaps they can't accommodate me." "There's no perhaps about it. Folks as has got a house are bound to keep folks as has broke down.

I went over to the cabin, which was a rude log structure, and the only one within four miles. The woman saw me coming and stood in the open door. Her husband saw me coming and sat down on a log. The five or six children saw me coming, and arranged themselves along the opening in the brush fence which answered for a gate. As I came up I approached the man and explained the natpre of the accident and asked to stay all

Stranger if it depended on me. I'd say yes," he replied as he crossed his legs and tried to put on an injured look. "But it don't depend on me, I don't amount to shucks around yere no mo".

"Now. Zekiel, what d've talk like that fur?" demanded the burefooted wife as she came down to the log. "Who's said you wasn't boss! Who's tried to take the lead over you?"

"You hev, an' right afore the children. too! You said I wasn't fitten to drive

Shoo, Zekiell you began it by saying I was extravagant. "Oh, yes, I begun it! I allus begin Nobody else never begins nuthin', and nobody else is never to blamet

"But this 'ere stranger wants to stay all night. It's comin' night and we can't

Well, I calkerlate he kin stay. A hand and told him to make my house his home, but now I hain't got no more rights around yere. I'm only a sighpher now.

The wife took my sachel into the cabin and I sat down on the log with Zeke and offered him a cigar. At the same time the seven children came and stood in a row before us, and called out as in one voice: "The feller has dun gin pap a cigar!"

"Yes, children," said the old man, as he scratched a match on his starboard quarter and lit the weed, "pap has got a cigar. It's the fust cheerin thing that has come to him fur twenty one years, and it's proof that he hain't quite forgotten by all the world. What are ye standin' here lookin' at? Whar's yer man-

"Hain't got none!" called three of them

"No, I s'pose not, and I can't blame ye any futher can't be s'perted to hev manners. Whar' ye from, stranger!"

I've never bin thar'. Hear 'em say anything about me?"

"No? Well, I s'pose they've heard of stranger. I'm the man who had forty-two Cor. The Argonaut. biles on his back in one winter.

"You did!" "Yes; and I never got the least sympathy from my family. Pve also had rheu-matism, lung fever, lame back, fever sore, consumption and yaller fever. Not one of the family shed a tear.'

"And I broke my leg, lost a \$200 mule by pizen, hed my barn burn up, lost a

farm on a mortgage and buried two chil-"Well, you have suffered."

"Suffered? Stranger, excuse these tears; 'Pap is believing, ma!" shouted the children, as they run for the house, and

the woman presently rushed out and "Now ther', Zekiel, you git, and you, thar', stranger, come in to smack!

"Didn't I tell you so!" exclaimed Zekiel. as he made a bolt for the woods. "I'm the discouragedest, downtroddenest, unfortunatest man in all creation, and I'm going to hang myself!"

You dass'n't, and you know you dass'a't!" shouted the wife.

"You dass'n't hang nuthing," added the While I was eating "smack" the woman stood before me, arms akimbo, and the children completed the circle around the

'From fur?" queried the woman as a

"From Bristel."

"Hear 'em say anything about me?" "I don't think so

"You orter, for I'm known all over the state as the distressedest woman in it." "And hain't we distressed, too?" indig nantly demanded the children in chorus "Of course but I'm the distressedest being a wife and mother."

"Any particular cause?" I asked. "More'n ten millyon particular causes. stranger! No human being will ever

"And we've suffered, too!" chorused the

children. "Yes, some; but nothing in comparison. I've had toothache, earnthe, pleurisy, quinsy, chills, fever, shakes, jaundice and bilious fever, and through the hull of it there has not been one human being to

feel sorry for me "And I haven't a relashun as will speak to me, on account of my marrying Zekiel, and if I was dying to morrow not one of 'em would come to lay me out for my

"That is indeed and " "Stranger, them is the first kind words

"And mam is believing, too? shouted the children, as she held her apron to her

ing to look careless and indifferent, but he had scarcely entered the door when the

wife jumped up and said: "Didn't I say you dassn't hang yerself?" 'And hain't you threatened to pizen yerself a dozen times over?"

"And we want to die, too!" howled the

children. "Stranger," said the wife, as she began to clear up the table, "take a good look at that thing over there as calls hisself a man You'll never set eyes on such an onery, shiftless, good for nothing specimen of manhood. He hain't fit fur bears

to chaw on." "Give it back to her, pap!" shouted the

"Stranger," replied Zekiel, as he solt out the bark he was chewing, "you hain t blind. You kin see as well as me, and you kin now realize why I am'the downtroddenest mournfullest man in Tennessee. I've either got to hang myself or go in this way.

"Don't you believe him!" appeared the wife. "It's all owing to him, and I ma prove it. If anybody is downtroddenest it's me!"

"They dasn't pull har and nlaw, ' observed the girl to me in strict conddence. I was about to try and affect a reconcilintion when the teamster returned haring hired a vehicle a souple of alles away, and as I left the house Zekiel left

"No you don't!" exclaimed the wife. "You want to take advantage of me, but you can't."

She put on her bonnet and walked out with us, and the six children brought up the tail end of the procession. As I got into the vehicle, Zekiel began. of 12 as general utility boy and he had "Stranger, I'm sorry we hadn't sunthin' left it at the age of 22 a finished lawyer,

better, but as I told you at the start, I'm the mournfullest, downtroddenest"-Don't you believe him, stranger," interrupted his wife. "If anybody has suffered more'n another, his"-

"They dasn't fight?" yelled the children. And as we moved away over the rocky road Zekiel made another bolt for the woods to hang himself, and the children were clapping their hands and shouting: "Come back here, pap, and be a man!" -M. Quad in Detroit Free Press.

Speaking of funerals calls to my mind the curious custom of the French people of placing the coffin containing the remains of some dear one in the courtyard or at the able review of his law books. entrance to the house. The porte-cochere is draped in black, and a canopy of the same sombre cloth is placed over the easket, with high silver candlesticks, holding burning wax candles, on each side of the bier, and also at the foot. A silver urn, filled with holy water, is placed at month ago I could hev taken him by the the foot of the coffin, and each passer by enters this hastily built mortuary chapel to repeat a short prayer for the soul of the departed one, to sprinkle a few drops of blessed water over the cotfin in the sign of the cross, and to speak a few words to the good Sister of Mercy who

The remains are left thus in the public

silent one.

place until the day of the funeral, and as the long line of carringes winds its way slowly out toward the great Pere la Chaise, as it passes by the hurrying workmen on his way to his labor, or the gentleman of leisure taking his morning stroll, or the poor beggar on the street corner, each and every one stops in his wak to lift his bat and to make the sign of the cross as the solemn procession passes by Nowhere in the world have I seen such respect shown to the dead as here in this gay cap--not a bit. Children as come up without ital, where one would think there was not even time to die. The great lady and morrow. My vacation is at an end." her cavalier will stop as soon, with lowered heads, as the poor homely little fun-"Right smart huddle, I've heard, but eral procession of some small child passes cast a hasty glance into her face. He was me, but didn't want to say anything to a families among the haute noblesse. - Parts

> A Stuttering Lawyer's Argument. Senator Vance, of North Carolina, tells of a stuttering friend of his in Asheville, lawyer, with a loving mother to support a lawyer, who had for a client a man that had been accused of selling liquor without a license. The prisoner had a decidedly alcoholic appearance; in fact his nose might have done service as a beacon near Cape Hatteras on the darkest night. The testimony was taken and the case went

"Y your honor," he began, "1-1-look at but yours are the first kind words I've the j-j-jury G-entlemen of the j-jury heard since the war closed." thou j-j-jury G-entlemen of the j-jury heard since the war closed." at the p-prisoner P-p-prisoner, I-look at his honor G-g-gentlemen of the jury. as if he'd s-s-s-sell a p-p-pint of liquor to

on until Mr. Vance's friend rose to make

anybody?" The argument was irresistible. The nose of the accused outweighed all other testimony and Senator Vance's friend triumphantly won his case .- New York

The following statistics are or French origin, and pointed Under Napoleon III the Crimean war cost Prance 200,000 men and 2 milliards of money; England 23,000 men and 5 milliards of money; Piedmont, 2,000 men and 175,000,000 france of money: Russia, 6,000,000 men and 4 milliards of money: Turkey, 35,000 men and 400,000,000. In 1858 the Italian war cost France 80,000 men and 1 militar money: Italy, 60,000 men and 150,000,000; Austria, 120,000 men and 873,000,000. In the Mexican war France spent 500,000,000 money and 70,000 men. The Syrian exmoney and 70,000 men. pedition cost 15,000 men and 125,000,000 money In the Franco-German war France lost 225,000 men and 9,288,000,000 money And now France is bristling with Boulangism and will be compelled to go in with Russia ere long in a struggle more terrible than all before it. The estimate is that France and Russia to-gether can put in the field 9,500,000 of stranger! No human being will ever men, while Germany. Austria and Italy know what I have suffered in body and can meet them with as many more. Think of 20,000,000 men eager for each others lives on European battle plains and what has been the gain of it all.—Globe-

> Pronunciation of Parnell's Name. Charles Parnell is not the sort of man to be called by his intimate friends "Charlie," for he has features which are rather severe and unsympathetic, al-though he is a blonde of rather a fine ype. The next thing to it is the name by which he is known all over Ireland—a pronunciation which is not extended to hngland—that of "Parnie," with the ac-cent on the first syllable. His estate in the County Wicklow, not far from Dublin. is not a source of large income, but is picturesquely situated and before his ill-

Hush! for the dead leaves are drifting. Strive not to sweep them away; Stir not the air by complaining— A sweet hopes lies dying today.

Bush! while the clouds on the hills are gathering sulles and gray. Ask not for vanishing sunlight— A great trust lies dying today.

Hush! while the low winds are mounts
Like a sigh from a heart we betray.

Strive not to read what they tell us—
A first love lies dying today. Bush! Fate and Nature are comrades.
They rule; what avails it to my
That hope, trust and love made our life sweet,
Since all are laid dying today.
—All the Year Bound.

JACK DAYTON'S FORTUNE.

Jack Dayton was 24 years of age. He was handsome, as that term applies to man, he was studious in an extraordinary sense; he was as sober as a cold water advocate: he was a lawyer, and he was as poor as a church mouse and prouder than Luctfer before he was exiled from heaven. Jack Dayton was as brave as a Bengal tiger, and his poverty never seemed a burden and a reproach to him before he met Gussie Vandorn. After that mo-

mentous meeting at Saratoga he felt that he could hang himself because he had not been born with a silver spoon in his The fact of the matter is Jack Dayton was in love from the soles of his feet to the crown of his intellectual head, and because he was poor his pride stood be-tween him and the rich weman who had stolen his heart in an unguarded moment. He had been practically raised in a law yer's office. He had entered it at the age

ing the long years. "Go somewhere, Jack," said the fond mother, "and stay all the summer. You never had a vacation in all your life, and you should celebrate your admission to the bar by taking one. You have been a hard student; you have been a loving and

with a few hundred dollars saved up dur-

devoted son. Ge take a vacation. Jack kissed her and took himself off to Saratoga, the worst place on earth, except Newport, for a poor man to go. But Jack was bent upon celebrating his admission in grand style and within the limits of \$300 So he went to Saratoga and took a modest room at one of the best hotels and started in for solid enjoyment and profit-

But the Vandorns were at Saratoga, too, and at the same hotel with Jack. He got acquainted with them in no time. He and Gussie got on famously in an easy, procrastinating way She was a dashin brilliant woman, with a sober side the world seldom saw. She began by studying Jack. He was a social phenomenon He was the most nonchalant, self possessed and dignified young man at the Springs, a thoughtful yet often humorous conversationalist. Everybody wondered what a brilliant and fashionable woman like Gussie Vandorn could find to admire watches night and day by the still, in a studious, self possessed and undemonstrative man like Jackson Dayton. They were much together about the hotel, "talking literature" some would say.

When Jack's \$300 began to get down to fine point he set about returning to New York Instead of taking him through the summer, it had just taken six weeks of Saratoga in a very quiet way to eat the life out of it. There is nothing like a summer hotel for eating up money. Jack had to go, but he wanted to stay. While the two were out for a quiet

walk one afternoon about the middle of August, Jack said:

'Miss Vandorn, I go to New York to

Miss Vandorn was as silent as a tombone. Jack was surprised thereby and them on its way to its last resting place startled. He could not mistake the surin the potter's field, as they will halt be prused and bewildered expression on her fore a hearse drawn by four horses and a countenance his abrupt declaration had line of carriages containing members of provoked. His heart gave a great leap and then stood still.

"If I say I go with regret it is because you have made my stay so very pleasant, he managed to say.

"Must you go?" asked Gussie. "I must go. I am but a poor young My dream hour is over. It seems like a "What seems like a dream?"

"The few weeks I have been here and privileged to have so much of your so-"I shall be pleased to see you at our

bome in New York, Mr. Dayton." "Miss Vandorn," said he, solemnly, "we have always been frank with each other: let me be so now. Why? I am too poor to be numbered among your New York

"I shouldn't mind your poverty, Mr. 1-look at the p-prisoner. D d-does he look Dayton; worth makes the man and want of it the fellow, you know."

Yes; but the world does not look at it that way; neither do L I have got to struggle for a place to stand. Some day we may meet again. I pray that we may. And it will seem a long time before that day comes.

They parted. When she reached her room, where the luxuries which wealth alone commands were scattered everywhere, she sank into an easy chair and there was a sweet smile

"He will return to me," she murmured to herself, "and I shall wait until he

All this passed through Jack Dayton's Dumley—I wouldn't mind having the mind two years after it had occurred. He had had a hard struggle. With all his brilliant talents he had a time of it to an ass.—New York Sun. make ends meet. He was brave and hopeful, and he nurtured these by thinking of the brilliant woman he had not met since he parted with her at Saratogs. He heard of ber often, but he purposely svoided

"What's the use?" he would ask him-

"Jack "said his mother as he went home one night, "I have never spoken to you about your father because the subject is a painful one to me. But I have heard news today through his father's lawyers that

have paid me a small sum every quarter, fortable at the same time.

Press "Everyday Talk."

tute action to recover your rightful share

"But he is now dead, Jack."

"Yes: he died in Paris a month ago." When Jack entered his office the next morning his head was full of the news his mother had told him and projects to look into his father's affairs to protect his own and his mother's interests. He had hardly got settled down to work before a spruce got settled down to work before a spruce young man in a footman's livery press elf and handed him a see He read the letter with mingled emotions. He put on his coat and hat and followed the servant to the pavement and entered the magnificent carriage in waiting. The carriage stopped before a rich house in one of the fashionable up town streets, and the doors flew open as Jack approached

He was led to a large bedroom. He walked to the side of the bed, around which two physicians and one or two servants were congregated. Everybody made way for him. A shrunken hand was extended to him, and he grasped it.

"Young man," said a faint voice, "I am your grandfather. I wronged your mother when she was young. Your father is now dead. He was a rascal. I have kept track of you through the years since you were born. I have not long to I want you to forgive me before I me, because I have occasioned her too much sorrow. All my wealth is yours. You have only to see my lawyers, Jenks & Jenks. You will find everything in shape, for my house has been in order a great many years against this hour.

Jack sank down by the side of the bed thoroughly unnerved. He was a strong man, but in this hour, when the past was to be atoned for and death hovered about the grandfather who had wronged him, but whom he had never seen before, he was weak as a child.

"Forgive" --- and the spirit of James Dayton left the frail and wasted body, where it had lodged for seventy years, before he could finish the sentence. Ш

Three months after the mortal remains of James Dayton had been consigned to the earth from which they came Jack Dayton presented himself at the Fifth avenue residence of Gussie Vandorn. His head was in a fearful state of agitation.

After a short time, which seemed an age to him, the young woman entered the par lor. He arose to his feet and advanced to meet her. 'Miss Vandorn, will you pardon the

liberty I take in calling upon you?" "Mr. Dayton, you have been free to call upon me, by invitation, for the past two

But I thought you may have forgot

"I have not forgotten." Jack gazed into her eyes a moment with all the earnestness of the days since they had parted. Her eyes dropped beneath his, and her face was suffused with blushes. She had not forgotten. He said with simple eloquence:

"I have not forgotten. I never could forget. Your face has been with me; I have heard your voice ever since we parted two years ago. I have come here to-night to tell you that life is no longer endurable if you don't share it with me. I have waited two years to tell you this. You need not have waited two years, Mr. Dayton," she said, with a roguish

money his grandfather left him, but in A New and imperant Book for Kansas the love of the woman that money had secured to him.-Chicago Mail.

Seep in El Paso.

It was in El Paso that I first met the wave of real estate speculation or gambing. In the town expeditions are price.

Kansas Fleading and Fractice in Civil Cases," with forms, by Irwin Taylor, of the Topeka bar, author of "Brief-Digest."

"Annotated Code," etc. Octavo, 600 pages, 56 net. Sent postpaid on receipt of price.

The Wichita Eagle, planned to catch the tourists as they halt after a weary ride from St. Louis, and become liberal and exhilarated under the come liberal and exhibitated under the influence of a bath and good food. Here we first ran across a brass band as a sale

For quick money on improved real estate call on Kansas National Loan Co.

25 50t H.W Lewis, Pres. agent, and were overpowered by the wondorful color combinations of the western symmetrical, but must be lurid. It was here, too, that I saw the first invitation to a funeral. It was on black edged note paper, and told A that he was cordially invited to be present at the funeral of B. daughter of C., etc. It was a most cheerful looking document, aside from its from date of sale with a limit of thirty cover. printer, whose taste need not be very somber border, and might well be shapted days going and returning with stop-over privileges. The Santa Fe is the only line annoyance created by interlopers and regular funeral followers.—Cleveland Plain

gestions. On silverware the iridescent hues of tropical shells are skillfully reproduced, and on ceramic ware their fascinating combinations of tints and the cinating combinations of tints and the gradations of these shells have been too much hidden away in cabinets, instead of "Rock Island Route," between Wichita, being studied by designers for their electronic curvatures and attractive colors. gant curvatures and attractive colors. The delicate and varied bues of the see

the earth.

A Cornet for the Fat Lady.

A clever little consettere on Seventeenth street says: "The most difficult customer I have to fit is Barnum's fat lady. She measures fifty inches round the waist, but laces down to forty-four. Her size is her stock in trade, to be sure, woman like, she will pull herself in common wear I make her a plain article of strong jean at \$35; for best, a satin embroidered corset at \$75. You see, I have to use about three times as much material and about three times as much

whalebone, and the latter is costly, as I do for an ordinary customer. "Well, mother what's the news! I have never taken any stock in my father, because you never told me anything about him, and I concluded that he must have wronged you very deep."

"He did, Jack. He thought he loved me, but he did not. He married me and when he found that his rich father would not sanction the marriage he deserted me. For twenty-five years he has lived in Europe. He drank very hard, so I have heard. He never wrote to me, but his lawyers have paid me a small sum every quarter,

drew the money, but I didn't know he was living and that he is rich. I shall insti-RAILWAY.

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ansmone, and the curves, volutes and flowing lines of the univalves and bivalves are worthy of patient study with reference to graceful and fanciful ornamentations.—Decorator and Furnisher.

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